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sea-going vessels for 1920 was 1,155. Such an addition to our sea-going vessels within so short a period of time challenges the imagination.

One outstanding fact is that this change in our commercial life must mean a more intelligent consular and diplomatic service, if the new and enlarged industrial effort of our nation is to avoid the ill will of other heavily producing peoples. Furthermore, it must mean a new education for our business men in languages other than our own, and in the ways of foreign folk. This new entry into the commercial life of the world brings added responsibilities. It offers also new opportunities to promote war. The supreme challenge is that we go about the tasks in such a way that we shall promote the general welfare of civilized States and the peace and prosperity of men and women everywhere. That is the way of good morals. It is the way of good business.

THE ESSENCE OF DEMOCRACY ENDURES

A LLEGIANCE to the law is the essence of free government. After two years of residence in the United States, De Tocquerville wrote in 1831: "However irksome an enactment may be, the citizen of the United States complies with it not only because it is the work of the majority, but because it is *his own*, and he regards it as a contract to which he is himself a part." The illustrious Frenchman had seen at first hand the operation of the principle that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.

The significance of this fundamental thing in our democracy was illustrated in the District of Columbia the other day. It came out in the trial of a case in the Supreme Court of the District. The plaintiff was one Max Holder, an Austrian Jew, but an American citizen, against one Lawrence O'Dea, a police official representing the United States Department of Justice. We referred to this case at the time of Holder's arrest in the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* for September, 1919. The charge against the officer was abuse of authority. We became quite accustomed, especially during the war, to reading of prosecutions by the Department of Justice against private individuals, but here is the case of a private individual bringing action against an officer of the Department of Justice. It appeared in the evidence that the officer invited Holder, a waiter in a local hotel, to police headquarters. After questioning the young man the officer had him locked up, after which he left orders that none of his friends should be permitted to see him. Surrounded by the most unwholesome environment, the prisoner was kept in strict incommunicado. His picture was taken and entered in the Rogue's Gallery. He was

not allowed to wash his face and hands during his imprisonment. The term of his confinement was one week. In the meantime the officer went to Holder's room, took his letters and other private papers without warrant. At the expiration of the week, the officer being unable to find anything against the prisoner, he was discharged, and all this without a hearing of any kind and without any reference to due process of law. The jury rendered a verdict for Mr. Holder for \$400.

The significance of this case lies not in the fact that an officer of the Department of Justice could treat a man in such a way; not in the fact that the amount of the verdict was \$400. The significance lies in the fact that under our American system of government we have made it possible to realize that justice, harking back to the Roman law and phrased by Ulpian as "the steadfast unchanging will and purpose to give to every one his due." To every critic of American democracy we would point to this simple case in all its fullness and encouragement. With us no man, be he rich or poor, be he even law maker or law executioner, is himself above the law. This case will be a warning to those who, still dominated by the war psychology, menace the common welfare by a wrongful use of the police power. It should cool off a bit the hot-blooded advocates of the overthrow of the American Government.

THE SOUTH AND THE MENNONITES

A BOUT 162,000-members of the Mennonite sect now living in the Swift River district of Manitoba are to migrate this year to Wayne and Greene Counties, Mississippi. There, on 125,000 acres of land which they have purchased and on 100,000 acres of which they have an option, they will resume community life—religious, educational and social, and along traditional lines. They consider themselves fortunate to have found a home in a country of rolling prairies, sparsely wooded but well watered, and requiring little preparatory labor before agriculture can begin. The change from Manitoba to a more salubrious climate they also will welcome; but most of all they will value the guarantee as to religious liberty and the right to their own method of education and ways of speech, which Governor Russell has promised them. He has done this over the protest of the Louisiana and Mississippi State organizations of the American Legion of Honor and also of the national officials of the same society.

To the men who were in the A. E. F., the Mennonites are

"conscientious objectors, refusing to enter military service. They will not assimilate American citizenship, neither will they allow themselves or their children to